Rev. Karl Schild
5949 Elsinore Street
Philadelphia, Pa.
20

April 17 - 1948.

Dear Harry:

Thank you very much for your letter of the 7th! I still have the pages 56-107, being those done by Voehringer, which are to be re-transcribed.

I am enclosing list of contents for pages 254-261, 265-277, 279-285, the photostats and transcripts of which I returned to you on February 24, this year. - I am also enclosing a statement for 40 hours of transcription work (which will be completed soon), the amount for which will be put in by you, as agreed upon.

The transcribing part of the New York Ministerium Protocol is completed except for re-checking, which - as agreed upon - I shall do during my summer-vacation in the country. I should appreciate if I may keep for my own use those two types of sheets which are left over (there are not too many left over). Kindly let me know!

And now to the main item of to-day's letter: the corrections to be made in your own (English) transcriptions of the New York Ministerium protocols for the years 1786 to 1806 (Protocol pages 1 - 43). The pages given in the following list are 1) your own page-numbers at the bottom of each sheet, and 2) the protocol page-numbers.

p.13 (5), first line: L/W. (?) means ℒ./W...
p.20 (7), before last two names add: Deputies
p.21 (8), above middle of page: L/W (?) means ℒ./W.
p.27 (10), 3rd line under item 15: April 26th.
p.39 (14), about middle of page: 2. 76cv (?) means 2. 7ber (=September)
p.42 (15), 5th line: Rom. 8, v. 31-32.
p.43 (15), about middle of page: M.(Mister?) means Magister.
p.48 (17), second to last line: Jor(?) evidently means J(uni)or.
p.55 (22), below middle of page: Cross out ~~&~~ before Resolved 1.)
p.60 (24), last few lines; Mylis (3 times) should read: Mylius.
Schmidt should read: Schmitt
p.67 (28), last line, read: named.
p.69 (29), 6th line, read executor (not; executors)
p.70 (29), under VIIIly, 1st line; read: these (not: their)
p.78 (35), about middle of page; read: Reifenberger (not:Reichenberger)
p.81 (37), lower part, left side; read: Albanierbusch (not;--bucht).
right side; read: Merckel (not:Meidlep).
p.84 (40), second to last line; read: conformity (not conforming).
p.88 (42), first line; read: Justice.(not: Justin).

I wanted these corrections made before I return your transcripts to the Seminary library.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Karl.

MINUTES

of the

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MINISTERIUM OF NEW YORK

1786 - 1818

PART I

Minutes of 1786-1806

Translated by Theodore E. Palleske, 1937

PART II

Minutes of 1807-1818

Transcribed by Harry J. Kreider, 1935

Facsimile of the title-page

of the earliest minute book

(next page)

The term "Consistorium" (Consistory) on the title-page was used in the minutes of 1797-1799, and was apparently placed on the title-page in the latter year, when the loose minutes of 1786-1799 were transcribed into the bound minute book. (See pp. 13, 23.)

C. J.

Adjutorium nostrum in nomine

Protokol

Des Evangelisch Lutherischen Consistoriums in
Von Newyork. North America ——— .x.x.x.

Psalm. 133.

Siehe, wie fein und lieblich ist es, wo die Brüder einträchtig bei
einander wohnen.

Wie der köstliche Balsam ist, der vom Haupt Aarons herab
fließt in seinen ganzen Bart, der herab fließt in sein
Wie der Thau, der auf den Bergen Hermon herab fällt auf die Berge
denn daselbst verheißt der Herr Segen und Leben
ewiglich.

Ehre sei Gott, in der Höhe und Friede auf
Erden und den Menschen ein Wohlgefallen.

.x.x.x.x

PART

I

NOTE CONCERNING PART I, MINUTES OF 1786-1806

The present typewritten copy, made in 1946, has been carefully made from and compared with Professor Palleske's own typewritten copy of 1937.

Professor Palleske's copy, however, contained only the English translation of the German minutes; some pages of the Protocol written in English were not incorporated. The present copy embraces the complete minutes.

Harry J. Kreider

Harry J. Kreider

Committee on Documentary History
United Lutheran Synod of New York

TRANSLATION

of the

GERMAN MINUTES

of the

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

MINISTERIUM OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

AND ADJACENT PARTS

1786 -- 1806

Made by

Prof. Theodore E. Palleske

Wagner College

Staten Island, New York

April 1937

EXPLANATORY FOREWORD

Inasmuch as this translation of the old German Protocols of the New York Ministerium is to have the value of a historical document I have considered it my duty to reproduce the original as closely as possible, with all its peculiarities and oddities, preserving as it were its original flavor as much as can be done in a process of filtration into another language. If, therefore, any part of this translation should seem to be queer and not according to the highest standards of classical English, it is not due to the translation but to the fact that the German Original as such, even from a German point of view is odd or actually faulty. Altogether it was not so easy a task to produce in English something akin to a photographic facsimile of these old German documents.

The following observations should be borne in mind when reading these protocols:

1. The German Script in which these minutes are written is peculiar not only to the end of the 18th century but very much so to the individuality of the writer. Many words, moreover, are misspelled and in some cases even a magnifying glass, which had to be used quite frequently, would not reveal the meaning. Some words and letters look so strange or are so indistinct that only after considerable rereading and a process of divination the meaning was finally discerned.

2. Punctuation is odd and irregular, often contrary to accepted custom and logical arrangement. Wherever it was so it was retained in English. The use of the colon for abbreviations in protocols 10-11-12 & 14 is very unusual.

3. Sentences are sometimes not only of the involved type of that day, but also loose and occasionally confused or even incomplete.

4. Names of persons and places are spelled in various ways, not only by different writers, but by the same person. For the sake of possible historical values the original spelling and abbreviations have been preserved without giving the usual English equivalents.

5. Titles-- In the early minutes clergymen are referred to as Preachers and addressed as Mr., then as Preacher, later on Reverend (German: "Ehrwärden") is used in cases of special distinction, finally Pastor becomes the custom, for inst. Mr. Möller, Preacher Ernst, Rev. Kunze, Pastor Quitman. Sometimes they are called Teachers, mostly by laymen. The German word "Seelsorger" occurs only once, so also "Pfarrer".

The appellation of the organization and the meetings passes through transformations, to wit: Ministerium, Consistory, Conference, Synod, hence we have Preachers' Meeting, Ministerial Meeting, Consistorial Meeting, Synodical Meeting with occasional variations.

The adjective Lutheran is sometimes omitted.

Except in the first few, the 10th, and the last of these German protocols the presiding officer is called Senior as explained in protocol No. 2-E.1, otherwise the term President is used.

Abbreviations recurring in the original:

M. stands for "Magister" the degree of A.M. for inst. "Herr Magister Groz" = Mr. Groz A.M.

P. is used in the latter protocols for Pastor.

p.p. - Lat.-praemisis praemittendis - other titles omitted - equivalent to etc.
- Paragraph.

6. Parenthesis ( ) are used to separate explanatory matter from the text:

a) additional words to complete the meaning;
b) possible variations in meaning;
c) Original German words where these are stressed for some reason.
d) ? indicates doubtful readings;

Protocols 1-8, as stated at the end of protocol 9, were entered by the Rev. Mr. Braun. These more than others show a lot of faulty spelling.

Protocols 9-13-14 according to all appearances were written by Pastor Quitman in his own hand.

Protocols 10-11-12-15 are in a different hand and have the peculiar use of the colon for abbreviations. These must have been entered by someone else. As the German script appears to be more feminine, they may have been written by Pastor Quitman's wife on dictation from notes.

May these pages be of assistance to those who are interested in the beginnings of our United Lutheran Synod of New York. This is the sincere wish of the translator,

Wagner College
Spring of 1937

Prof. Theodore E. Palleske

Adjutorium nostrum in Nomine Domini.

(Our Help is in the Name of the Lord)

P R O T O C O L

Of the Evangelical Lutheran Consistory in the State

Of Newyork. North America.

Psalm 133.

Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to
dwell together in unity.
Like the precious ointment is, that runs down from
the head of Aaron into his whole beard, that flows
down upon his garment,
As the dew that drops down from Hermon upon
the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord
promises blessing and life for evermore.

God's Word, and Luther's Lore

Passes never, nevermore.

No. 1. 1786

Inasmuch as it had been decided,--at the request of almost all regular Evangelical preachers of the State of New York and for the purpose of taking part in the dedication of a church in the city of Albany,--to hold a Preachers' Meeting in said city on the 22nd and 23rd of October 1786, at which meeting, however, not more than 3 preachers and a few delegates appeared, those present thought best to regard themselves merely as a committee of the Evangelical Church of the State of New York, who would propose a few resolutions which were to stand accepted as framed, if the other preachers and congregations of this state should raise no objection. These proposals were

1. That now and then, whenever a sufficient number of preachers and congregations should desire it, a Synodical meeting be held in this state, which meeting is to be called by the president.

2. That every congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran faith in this State be entitled to send a delegate to such meeting, who, like the preacher is to have seat and vote, except in the examination of the theological standing of a candidate or the orthodoxy of a preacher who is accused of false teachings.

3. That those who pretend to be Evangelical Lutheran preachers but refuse to submit to an examination by their brethren, or who, if they have submitted to same, have been found unfit, because of ignorance, false teachings, or a disgraceful life, should not be recognized as

Evangelical Lutheran preachers by any preacher or congregation of this Synod, nor should they be admitted to our pulpits, nor be employed in the capacity of a teacher in the church, nor encouraged or supported in any way.

4. That, as long as the Evangelical Church of this State and Adjacent Places in the territory of our Synod have no opportunity to draw up a constitution for themselves in a regular ministerial session and since every society must have certain regulations as a working basis, they are to regard the ministerial order of the Church of Pennsylvania and Adjacent States as their own, all such items excepted that now and in future shall be eliminated by special resolution or which, because of our location and other conditions, are inapplicable to our organization.

5. That the present committee of the Ev. Luth. Church of the State of New York is to elect a president, who is to have the same duties which are enumerated under the office of president in the Pennsylvania constitution and whose authority is to be recognized, if the other preachers and congregations or the majority thereof file no objection against our choice.

6. On the 23rd of October 1786, at the end of the Conference, D. Joh. Christoph Kunze, preacher in New York, who at the very beginning had been elected and recognized as chairman of the meeting, was elected president as provided in Par. 5.

1786

The preachers present at this session of the committee were

Joh. Christoph Kunze of New York.

Samuel Schwerdfeger of Feilstown.

Henrich Müller of Albany

and as delegates

Johannes Bassinger of New York

Joh. Gayer of Albany.

(4)

No. 2 New York. 1792. October 7.8.9.

Mr. Braun preached October 7th at 10 o'clock in the morning on Ps. 15, v. 1.2. and Mr. Meyer in the afternoon on Jer. 6, v. 10, in the evening at 6 o'clock Mr. Braun on Eccl. 14 ?, v. 32. (?).

The meeting of the Ministerium scheduled for to-day Oct. 8th was opened with an address by the President. Having been duly counted the following preachers and congregational deputies were found to be present.

Dr. Kunze.

Pastor Braun of Schoharie.

C. Meyer of Albany.

The deputies of the congregations who attended were the following:

Mr. Christian Schulze of New York.

Mr. Johann G. Knauf of Feilstown and Tomhaynik.

Mr. Johann G. Geyer of Albany.

Mr. Knauf delivered his credentials.

Mr. Groz excused his absence in a letter addressed to the President, but approved (the meeting) and wished the Lord's blessing upon the undertakings of the convention.

Mr. Ernst of Hudson likewise excused his absence, but also approved the meeting and wished God's blessing upon the deliberations. Later on the President received letters from Mr. Pfeifer

and Graf excusing their absence, approving the meeting, and wishing God's blessings.

The President read the credential letter of Mr. Knauf which he had received from his constituents in Feilstown.

Then a personal and an official (letter) of the congregation in Albany concerning A. F. Maier was read by the President in which the genuineness of his teaching as well as his conduct was certified.

A communication was also read from the church council of the congregation in Schoharie in which Mr. Braun was given favorable testimony concerning his teaching and conduct and in which a false rumor was denied that had formerly been spread by some people about Mr. Braun and his wife.

Furthermore a letter was shown from Curacao concerning Mr. Pfeifer in which his successor in office testified concerning his teaching and the life he had led on said island.

There was also read the protocol written by the Secretary of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania that had been sent to Dr. Kunze, who likewise read the protocol (of the meeting) held in Albany on the 22nd and 23rd of October 1786.

In addition to this the new constitution of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania of the year 1792, which had been sent to the President, was read.

Thereupon various propositions were presented to the meeting for deliberation and decision and were dealt with in the following order:

A. That on account of the small number in attendance at this meeting we members of the Evangelical Church of the State of New York, preachers and delegates of the congregations now present consider ourselves also at this time merely as a committee of the Ev. Luth. Church of this state and shall not regard the resolutions which we shall make as binding until they have been accepted by the majority of preachers and congregations.

B. That it is necessary for the Ev. Luth. Church of this state and such congregations whose location makes it convenient for them to unite with us to draft a constitution and that a synodical convention is to be held for this purpose.

C. That the committee proposes Albany as the place and the 3rd Sunday after Easter, Jubilate, as the time for such a convention and that the acceptance of this proposition is to be made known to the President as soon as possible.

D. That the constitution of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, of which every preacher is to receive a copy, best serves as a basis and that we organize accordingly; but that as many changes be made as it may please the next meeting.

E. That since such a meeting is still uncertain and, because of distances, has many difficulties in this state, in the meantime, however, some sort of constitution ought to be followed, so as to determine our actions in church affairs, the Pennsylvania constitution is to be regarded by us as a guiding principle as much as location and other circumstances shall permit, except in the following items.

1. On account of our limited number chapt. 2 and 3 are to be combined in such a way that there be only one Senior and that he should unite in himself all the duties of a Senior and a President.

2. In Ch. 4 Par. 2 and Par. 3. the word German is eliminated.

3. At the beginning of Ch. 5. the word "Catechet" (catechetical instructor) is eliminated. In Art 1. Par. 8 the words following Ministerium from Europe up to: "sends" are to be stricken and in their place is to be inserted: which is recognized by us as such. Art. 3 is eliminated.

4. In Ch. 6. in place of the first Art. the following (is substituted): A Synodical Meeting is held as often as a preceding meeting determines, or the Senior calls, or 3 preachers request him to call such. Par. 9 is to be changed thus: Every congregation united with us has the right to send a delegate who is entitled to a seat and vote in the Synodical Meeting except in the following matters: The doctrinal qualification of a candidate and the orthodoxy of a teacher accused of false teachings. Par. 10. is stricken. Par. 12. is stricken. Par. 13. is stricken. Par. 21. No. 2. the word "Catechet" (catechetical instructor) is eliminated. No. 4. is stricken. No. 5. the words: after the election are dropped. After Par. 29. the marginal note is dropped.

5. Ch. 7. is dropped entirely. All of the circumstances, however, which are mentioned there are to be taken up in the meeting of Synod.

6. The designing of a ministerial seal is postponed for the time being.

F. That every preacher united with us should fully consider these matters and notify the person who will be elected Senior of his

approval and indicate what he disapproves and whatever additions he may desire.

G. That every preacher submit all of these resolutions to the councils of his several congregations who likewise are to notify the Senior of their acceptance or rejection of all or any items, or have this done through the preacher.

H. That the Senior, having been recognized as such, regard only those sections of these proposals and resolutions as valid and binding until the next meeting which the majority of preachers and congregations who notify him of their decisions, may ratify.

I. That the committee elect a Senior, which election also shall be valid only, if it has been ratified in the L.H. (?) described manner.

K. That the Senior should make an effort, through his European correspondence, to secure a like support for the Ev. Luth. Church in New York State as the Ministerium of Pennsylvania receives from the Orphans Institute in Halle, and the North Carolina Ministerium enjoys on the part of a laudable Society of Professors at Helmstadt.

L. That the brethren as well as the various church councils of the regular Ev. congregations of this state be requested to report the result of their deliberations as soon as possible, because the Senior will make it his duty to communicate with European patrons on behalf of our church as promptly and speedily as possible; in order to do this he needs the sanction of all preachers and churches of our confession in this state.

M. In order to maintain the closest contact and a brotherly relationship with the neighboring Ministerium of Pennsylvania, the President will send them a copy of (the minutes of) our synodical meetings and continue to do so, if said body continue in future, as they have done heretofore, to send a copy of theirs.

N. That A. F. Maier be ordained at the next meeting of Synod, provided that in future his testimonials are as favorable as heretofore.

O. That Adam Henrich Maier Sen, who has been proposed as a member of our Ministerium is to be received as such, provided a contention that has arisen between Pastor Jung and him be adjusted by returning from the Recording Office and destroying a letter written by Mr. Jung of Carlisle.

P. That a letter be sent to the congregation at Schoharie, in which they be admonished to co-operate with Durlach concerning the future care of their congregations inasmuch as Mr. Braun will have to accept a call to another field.

Q. That, furthermore, a letter be sent to the congregation at Renselearwyke (?) in which they are advised to join with Feilstown and Tomhaynik in calling Mr. Braun.

R. That Mr. Knauf be given a written statement by our meeting in which we voice the opinion that we regard I. A. Schmidt, who claims to be a rightfully ordained preacher, as an intentional deceiver until he can produce documentary evidence--this statement translated from English reads .

as follows:

"In a committee of the Lutheran Consistory convened at New York, Oct. 7th, 8th, 9th, 1792, with the purpose of deliberating upon the welfare of the churches of the State of New York:

Resolved that it is evident from various letters written and signed by a person who calls himself I. A. Schmidt and who at present acts as a Lutheran preacher in a part of a congregation of said confession in the township of Troja and especially from a letter also by this same I. A. Schmidt to Mr. Knauf, physician (?)(original has "Arzeneikundigen"), dated Troja Bustenkill (Poestenkill) January 14, 1792, that the writer of said letter is a man who does not understand his own language, that he cannot spell and, therefore, has no ability to teach children how to write, and that various errors in fundamental doctrines of our church that occur in the letter to Mr. Knauf show his inaptitude to teach the principles of said Ev. Church.

And since, in a letter of said I. A. Schmidt to Dr. Johann C. Kunze, President of our Ministerium, said I. A. Schmidt claims to have been a regularly ordained preacher of the Ev. Church in the Electorate of Hannover and to have received from Germany documentary proof for the confirmation of this assertion, this Meeting is of the opinion that said I. A. Schmidt is to be regarded as an imposter until he submits his credentials to the other Luth. preachers of this state or their President for inspection.

S. That in case C. A. F. Maier should accept still other congregations before the next meeting of Synod, the license received by him

in Pennsylvania last summer from the Ministerium of Pennsylvania is to extend until then also to these congregations.

Finally the committee elected a Senior and Secretary, Dr. Johann C. Kunze in New York was elected Senior and A. F. Maier in Albany as Secretary.

That all these deliberations and resolutions were made and accepted by us, is attested by

Johann Ch. Kunze, President

Anthn. T. Braun, Preacher

August F. Maier, Secretary p.t.

Johann G. Maier, Deputy from Albany

Christian Shulz _____ from New York

Johann G. Knauf _____ from Feilstown and Tomhaynik

No. 3. L/W . (?) Albany. April. 23, 1793.

On account of our very mall number we decided to regard ourselves also at this meeting only as a committee of the Ev. Luth. Church of the State of New York and, in the absence of the President, elected Mr. Johann F. Ernst as president p.t.

April 21st being the appointed day for the preachers meeting, Mr. Ernst opened the Conference in the forenoon by an address on John 10, v. 14.15. In the afternoon Mr. Pfeiffer preached on 1st Peter 2, v. 13, in the evening Mr. Braun on Col. 3, v. 1.

On the morning of the 22nd Mr. Ernst opened the Conference in the home of Mr. Hebeiszen (?) with a prayer, and the following members of the Ministerium were found to be present:

J. F. Ernst of Hudson.

G. H. Pfeiffer of Rhynebeck.

A. T. Braun - Schoharie.

No news was received from Mr. M. (Magister-A.M.) Groz as to what prevented his presence, A. F. Maier was absent, having gone to Canada. Nor did the old Mr. Maier appear and no report came from Mr. Liebich.

The only deputy who appeared was Mr. Johann Bauch, Esq. of Schoharie who presented the credentials from his constituents to the meeting.

In the meeting Mr. Ernst put two questions to Mr. Pfeiffer, the first being; where Mr. Pfeiffer had been ordained. Mr. Pfeiffer said that he had been regularly ordained in Holland. Secondly: whether Mr.

Pfeiffer believed in the whole Word of God, Old and New Testament, and accepted the doctrines of the Symbolical Books? To which Mr. Pfeiffer answered that he believed all of this with his whole heart, and especially that the Lord Jesus was true God and man in one person.

After this the minutes were read of the Conference held in New York Oct. 7th, 8th, 9th, 1792.

The motion was passed, that inasmuch as the President had not yet arrived and, therefore, the constitution of the church organization could not yet be determined, we should be guided by the Pennsylvania constitution as far as conditions and circumstances would permit.

Since the President was still expected to appear, it was decided to postpone further proceedings until his arrival. In the evening Mr. Ernst preached on Ps. 143, v.5.

April 23rd. Since the President had not yet arrived and we on account of our small number did not wish to determine anything it was decided to close the Conference in the name of the Lord.

We, the undersigned, testify to these proceedings of the meeting held in Albany on April 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 1793.

Johann F. Ernst, P. p.t.

Anthon T. Braun, S. p.t.

George H. Pfeiffer.

Johann Bauch Esq. Deputy from Schoharie.

No. 4. 1794 New York

Oct. 7th Dr. Johann C. Kunze, President and Senior of the Ministerium in the State of New York and Adjacent Parts, opened the Ministerial Meeting with prayer. The following members were present:

Messrs. Johann C. Kunze T. D. President and Senior.

Anthon T. Braun. Preacher from Albany.

Georg. J. Wichtermann Cand. from West and Ost Camp.

Georg. Streebeck Student of Th.

Deputies Jacob Reszaler of Newyork

Samuel Hinderer of Albany.

After the Conference was opened, the following propositions were presented to the meeting by the Senior:

a. Mr. Georg Streebeck's case

b. Mr. Georg Wichtermann's

c. Mr. Wieting's

d. and finally the constitution.

1. Mr. Georg Streebeck who had been confirmed in Baltimore by Mr. Kurz, had happened among the Methodists and had begun to preach among them without having been ordained. But since he had married and could no longer be a traveling preacher among them, he spoke to Mr. Haeuszer, a trustee of the Lutheran Church in New York and informed himself as to what he would have to do in order to become again a member of our Church. He had done this without knowing anything about

our desire to find a young preacher in the English language. Mr. Haeuszer reported this matter to the Senior and the latter wished to become acquainted with Mr. Streebeck. When our Senior found, as much as can be determined in a brief examination, that he had not given up the principles of the Ev. Church, although he had preached for a time in another, he offered him the position of assistant under the following conditions:

a. That he should study German which he could now understand, also write well, but not speak sufficiently.

b. That he should study under his, the preacher's, supervision and acquaint himself in the languages as well as the necessary sciences.

c. That for two hours daily he was to teach the children in the German school Reading and Arithmetic in English.

His agreement to these points led to a further test that was given him which turned out very favorably and gives the preacher of the Luth. Church in New York the pleasure to present him to the brethren for examination and admission.

The result was that Mr. Streebeck really satisfied the meeting by a public examination and was unanimously received by the assembled brethren of the Ministerium as a member of our Ministerium.

After this a declaration was read to Mr. Streebeck by the Senior, in which the conditions were included that had been presented to him by the meeting for his signature, which declaration he then

signed in the Conference with his own hand, whereupon he received permission, as a Licensed Candidate, to perform "Omnes actus ministeriales" (all ministerial acts) under the supervision of the Senior.

2. A testimonial was read concerning the conduct of Mr. J. Wichtermann in which it was certified that he had honored his ministerial office with an edifying life, moreover the congregations of Ost-West Camp and Tarbush petitioned the Ministerium in a touching letter for his ordination.

So it was

a. Resolved that Mr. Wichtermann was to be examined at once.

b. Resolved that if Mr. Wichtermann has been found competent in this examination, he should be ordained at the very next opportunity.

c. Resolved that Messrs. P. Groz, F. Ernst, and A. T. Braun together with the Senior serve as a committee with power to ordain Mr. G. J. Wichtermann coming Jubilate Sunday 1795, or on one of the following days, at Luneburg, Claverak, Hudson, or Albany, i.e. at a place among the aforesaid where the above appointed committee should find it to be most convenient, and that any two (preachers) together with the Senior be empowered to conduct this sacred rite.

3. The assembled brethren affirmed and passed upon the license given by the Senior to Mr. Wieting.

This evening Mr. A. T. Braun preached on Matth. 11. v. 30. After the sermon the Senior introduced Mr. G. Streebeck to the assembled congregation with a short address and read the license and the declaration which Mr. Streebeck affirmed again before the whole congregation, whereupon the Senior, the attending brethren, and the church council of the congregation cordially received him with a solemn hand-clasp.

October 8th

4. Several edifying letters from Mr. P. Groz were read, in which he also expresses his opinion concerning Mr. Wieting.

5. The Senior read a letter from Mr. Sparke in which he excuses his absence and commends himself to the Ministerium.

6. Resolved that Preacher Braun should conscientiously recommend Mr. Sparke to the congregations in Durlach.

7. Resolved that the next meeting should not be called, until two or three preachers of the Ministerium desire it and at the same time oblige themselves to appear in person, unless the Senior consider such a meeting to be necessary.

8. Resolved that if the Ministerium of Pennsylvania and Neighboring States send a member of their Ministerium to us, the same be entitled to seat and vote in our conferences.

9. Resolved that we again go over the constitution which we considered a few years ago, organize ourselves accordingly and observe it.

In considering this matter the following changes were made:

a. 1st chap. Of the name. The German Ev. Luth. Ministerium in the State of New York and Adjacent Parts.

b. Ch. 4, Par. 6. the word "Catechete" (catechetical instructor) is stricken.

c. Ch. 5. Art. 1 Paragraph 3. every com. (communicant?) etc. in spiritual things and according to Holy Writ--is to be added.

d. Ch. 5. Art. 2. Par. 6. The end of the Par. from the word: and appears-, is eliminated.

e. Ch. 6. Par. 11. To be added: except where an attending preacher certifies that the deputy is elected for this purpose.

f. Ch. 6. Par. 27. To be added: after finished business may.

g. Ch. 5. Art. 3. Resolved: The Senior together with the Secretary may give a license to a candidate of Theology, who is provided with acceptable testimonials, but the permission thus granted is valid only until the next meeting of Synod.

h. Amendments to the constitution should merely be numbered.

Oct. 9th.

This morning the Senior received a letter from Mr. G. H. Pfeiffer, Preacher in Rhynebeck, in which he excuses his absence, approves of the meeting and wishes the blessing of the Lord; illness was the cause of his absence.

10. That Mr. G. H. Pfeiffer is also elected as a member of the committee to attend the ordination of Mr. Wichtermann on Jubilate

Sunday next, or on one of the following days, as was declared in No. 2 of this protocol.

11. Resolved that if Mr. Ernst has no connection with Nobletown and this congregation is no longer in arrears with his support, and if he cannot arrange any Sunday for them, Mr. G. J. Wichtermann be entitled to take care of the congregation at Nobletown.

12. Resolved that among all the congregations everywhere, which are connected with the Ministerium, it is to be the custom, as it could not of course be otherwise, that congregations which call a preacher be satisfied not to have any service on these Sundays on which the preacher is in duty bound to attend the Ministerial Meeting.

13. At the close of the Conference the Meeting elected a secretary, in whatever manner it pleased; - Resolved that Preacher A. T. Braun retain the office of secretary.

Signed by all members present at this Synodical Meeting.

Johann C. Kunze Senior

Anthon T. Braun Secretary

Georg J. Wichtermann Preacher in Ost Camp & Tarbush

Georg Strebeck. Assistant in Newyork

Jacob Rösler of Newyork

Samuel His X Hand Hinderer of Albany

1795 Albany

According to a resolution of the Ministerium made in New York Oct. 7, 1794. as may be seen in No. 2 of the protocol of the same year, Mr. Georg Joseph Wichtermann was solemnly ordained, by the laying on of hands, in Albany on April 26, 1795. Previous to the ceremony performed by Mr. Johann C. Kunze T.D., Senior of the Ministerium, the brethren Johann F. Ernst and Anthon T. Braun assisting, Mr. Wichtermann delivered himself of the following declaration

L/W. (?)

With this declaration and by these presents I, the undersigned Georg Joseph Wichtermann, Licen. Gand. for the Sacred Office of the Ministry, bear witness, that after I was thoroughly examined in the doctrines of the Ev. Luth. Church and other necessary matters and found to be competent at a Ministerial Meeting, held in the city of New York Oct. 7, 1794, which examination was the result of a written letter of recommendation from the Ev. Luth. congregations in Ost Camp and Therbusch (Tarbush) in Columbia County of the State of New York, wherein request was made for my ordination (German original has: Bestätigung) for the ministry, I herewith most solemnly promise before my God and my Supreme Shepherd Jesus Christ, so long as my eyes remain open and I hold, in America, the office of an Evangelical minister: to remain in the teaching of the Word of God as it is declared in the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, to teach and live according to it, to submit to the censure

of my Ev. brethren of this state, the Evangelical Ministerium, and the advice and admonitions of the Senior; furthermore not to interfere with the rights of any regular member of the Ministerium, or otherwise declare myself, at the judgement and decision of the Evangelical Ministerium, incapable of holding office.

Thus given in the City of Albany, April 26th, in the year of our Lord 1795.

Georg Joseph Wichtermann

No. 5. 1796 Rhynebeck Columbia County State of New York.

Proceedings of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium in the State of New York from September 22nd to 26th in the year of Christ 1796--.

The Ministerial Meeting was begun with prayer by His Rev. Mr. Johann C. Kunze T. D. Professor of Oriental Languages, Senior of the Ministerium and Pastor in New York. Whereupon Mr. A. T. Braun was elected secretary of the Ministerium by a majority of votes.

The following members of the Ministerium were present.

Mr. Joh. C. Kunze, Senior

Philipp Jacob Groz, A.M. Preacher in Stone Arabia and Palatine

Johann Friederich Ernst --Luneburg, Claverak and Nobletown

Anthon Theodore Braun -- Albany, Neskijunha (?) and Tomhaynick.

Friederich Henrich Quitman -- Schoharie, Cobleskill, and Hbellenberg

Georg Henrich Pfeiffer -- Rhynebeck.

Georg Joseph Wichtermann -- Feilstown

Georg Strebeck Assistant in New York.

Johann Christopher Wieting L.C. -- Gaszeberg

Deputies (Henrich Haeuszer -- New York
(John Domineik -- Schoharie
(Conrad Loescher (?) -- Ost Camp
(Nicholaus Bonestiel -- Rhynebeck

Yesterday morning at eleven o'clock the meeting was opened with a public service and on the basis of 1. Cor. 3, v. 17. His Rev. the Senior presented

an admonition concerning the defiling of the temple of God, after which a short discussion took place between the members of the Ministerium in attendance and the trustees, elders, and deacons of the congregation at Rhynebeck in which, however, a misunderstanding existing between them and their preacher Mr. Pfeiffer could not be removed.

A service was held on the 22nd, at eleven o'clock, when Mr. M. (Magister) Groz edified the congregation on Col., 1, v. 12-17 and pictured to the gathering the unspeakably gracious mercies of God as a mighty motive for a humble and devout praise of God.

At two o'clock in the afternoon, all members now being present, the Ministerial Meeting was opened with prayer by His Reverence the Senior, and the following points (were) taken up in their order:

1. The constitution which had been discussed and unanimously accepted in previous meetings, was read as it had been written out with the inserted changes.

2. The protocol of the year 1794, when the Ministerial Meeting was held in New York, was likewise read to the assembled brethren.

3. After the Senior had introduced Mr. M. (Magister= A.M.) Quitman who on account of war disturbances had come to our states from Curacao, having served the congregation there as a regularly called preacher for twelve years, Mr. Quitman was unanimously received by all members of the Ministerium with the right hand of fellowship as a member of the Ministerium.

4. Resolved that Mr. Georg Strebeck be presented to the meeting for examination.

5. Resolved that Mr. Johann C. Wieting should likewise be examined.

6. Resolved that Mr. J. C. Wieting is to preach on Saturday at 12 o'clock, Mr. M. (?) Quitman on Sunday morning, and Mr. G. Strebeck in the afternoon.

Session of September 23rd.

The meeting began with the examination of Mr. G. Strebeck. After this Mr. J. C. Wieting also came up for examination.

1. Resolved that Messrs. Strebeck and Wieting, having satisfied the assembled brethren in their examination and having been found qualified for performing the duties of Holy Ministry, are to be ordained Sunday afternoon.

2. Resolved that a general declaration be drafted which, excepting special cases, is to be signed by all candidates for ordination, which declaration also the candidates now to be ordained are to sign publicly in church before their ordination.

7. Resolved that the essential items of these ministerial proceedings be published in various papers, together with a notice concerning a few persons who are conducting themselves in a disorderly manner, namely, H. P. Sparke, I. A. Schmidt, and Dashler, who pass themselves off for Ev. Luth. preachers and deceive some of our congregations who, therefore, are to be warned against such men. It is to be added that we acknowledge none of the ministerial acts illegally performed by such persons as

genuine and valid.

Session of September 24th. Protocol page 10

8. When a motion was being considered concerning candidates it was resolved that the licensed candidates should in future be called vicars and their license entitle them only to preach and baptize.

9. Resolved that the seal which the secretary will determine be valid for the time being, until a new one is made.

10. The constitution was signed by all members of the Ministerium.

11. At the same time it was resolved that Preacher Ernst have the constitution printed both in German and English at the common expense of the congregations.

12. Resolved that, according to our opinion, our Rev. Senior was right in refusing his pulpit to the Swedish preacher Kierulf and that we will all follow him in this practice.

13. Mr. M. (Magister ?) Groz read to the assembled brethren a plan (?) for the purpose of a thoroughgoing improvement of a blessed growth of the Ev. Luth. Church and constitution in the State of New York, which plan the brethren found to be very edifying.

Candidate Wieting preached on Rom. 5, v. 1.

14. The following points of reconciliation were proposed by the Ministerium to the Reinbek congregation.

1. That the conduct of Preacher Ernst in the matter of Preacher Pfeiffer be declared as being without reproach.

2. To accept and sign the congregational constitution.

3. To permit Preacher Pfeiffer to preach and perform other ministerial

acts until the first of May 1797, as he will then take leave of the congregation and parish in peace.

4. To pay him in common, according to his call, the salary still owing him.

a. On the first proposal of the conditions of reconciliation 30 members of the congregation voted in favor of Mr. Ernst, to declare his conduct in the matter of Mr. Pfeiffer as irreproachable; 17 members voted against it.

b. 37 members voted in favor of the church constitution; 10 remained undecided.

c. The third point was approved unanimously, on the condition that now and then, with the consent of Mr. Pfeiffer and the church council, another preacher of our organization might preach in the congregation.

d. 34 voted in favor of the fourth point, 13 against it.

15. The assembled brethren were informed of the ordination of Mr. Wichtermann and it was decided to include this item in the protocol. Mr. Georg Joseph Wichtermann was ordained in Albania on April 25th of the year 1795 by a committee appointed in the previous protocol, namely His Reverence the Senior, Mr. Ernst, and Mr. Braun.

16. Resolved that if any complaint against one of the fellow preachers is to be made concerning doctrine or conduct and all steps have been taken by the church council according to the congregational constitution, such complaint is to be brought to no one else but the Senior of the Ministerium, who is to keep matters confidential until a decision in a ministerial session or by a committee appointed by him for

this purpose; unless his own advice and admonition should render further investigation unnecessary.

17. Resolved that in answering the letter of Friederich Gerner, sent to the Ministerium and read in public, Mr. Quitman refer him to an answer already given before this by Mr. Groz to a letter of like content.

18. Resolved that we accept the order of service of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania and follow it in our services.

19. Resolved that those sponsors shall not be declared unfit who promise before witnesses to comply with the command of Christ concerning the Lord's Supper.

20. Resolved that the members of the Ministerium with united efforts endeavor to introduce the Pennsylvania hymnbook in the congregations.

21. Resolved that the Ministerium recognize the admission of the Rhynbek congregation into the organization of the Ministerium which took place on March second 1796.

Sept. 25th, being the 18 Sunday after Trinity, Mr. M. (Magister) Quitman preached on Matth. 22, v 34-46 and encouraged the gathering in a touching (stirring) speech toward love of God and one's neighbor.

22. In the afternoon Vicar Strebeck preached in German on Is. 3, v. 10. and pictured to the assembly the Blessed State of the Just. After the Sermon the Senior asked the Vicars Mr. Strebeck and Wieting to come forward, and after the Senior had delivered a touching address on Rom. 12, v. 11., in keeping with the importance of the occasion, both vicars were ordained and consecrated for the work of the Gospel by the laying on of

hands on the part of the Senior and all other attending brethren, while an unusually large number of people were in attendance.

Sept. 26th, Mr. Strebeck, assistant in New York, preached in English on Hebr. 2, v. 1. and encouraged the congregation to a practical application of the Word which had been presented to them by various servants of God during the convention of the Ministerium.

23. Resolved that the next meeting of Synod is to be held in Schoharie the first Sunday in Sept. of the year 1797.

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24. Resolved that it be the common practice of evangelical preachers of this state not to readmit, without a solemn promise of future faithfulness and constancy, any person who has communed in a church of another confession or who while ignoring his own pastor has taken his children to another for baptism; such persons, therefore, are not to be regarded as members of a congregation before such reinstatement.

25. Resolved that we should determine what are Ministerial Acts, in consequence of which (it was)

26. Resolved that Ministerial Acts include the following: Baptisms, Lord's Supper, Confirming, Preaching, Catechizing, and Burial. With respect to Marriage the rule of the Lord is to be observed: Whatever you do not wish to have done to you, that do not unto another.

That all the above recorded proceedings, as they are herein described in in 26. points, were carried on by the United Evangelical Ministerium of

the State of New York at Rhynebeck from Sept 22 to 26th is testified by

Johann C. Kunze. H.S.D. (Dr. of Holy Scripture)

Prof. of Oriental Languages and Senior of the Ministerium.

Philip J. Groz A.M. Preacher in Stone Arabia & Palatine

Anthon T. Braun. -- in Albany. Secretary p.t. of the Ministerium.

Johann F. Ernst. -- Luneburg & Claverak.

Friederich H. Quitman A.M. -- Schoharie etc.

Georg J. Wichtermann -- Feilstown

Georg Strebeck Assist. Min. New York.

Johann C. Wieting -- Goszeberg.

Deputies

(Henry Heiser -- New York.

(John Dominick -- Schoharie.

(Nicolaus Bonnestiel -- Rhynebeck.

(Conrad Loescher Ost Camp.

Note.

Although nothing has been entered in this protocol about the distribution of the Lord's Supper, it is herewith certified that we nevertheless decided, that the preachers of our church should uniformly, according to the general custom of our Ev. Luth. Church, hand the Lord's Supper to the communicants and that the bread should not be broken according to the principles of the Reformed Church, because, as the Senior fittingly remarked, the learned Calvin intended to emphasize the symbolism of the body of Christ in the Lord's Supper by the breaking of the bread. That this decision was made by us in this Ministerial Meeting at Rhynebeck

is testified by

Anthon T. Braun Secretary p.t.

Declaration of Mr. Strebeck.

In the name of the Supreme Shepherd Jesus Amen! By this present declaration I, Georg Strebeck, Licensed Candidate of the Holy Ministry, affirm that after I was found worthy, in a Ministerial Meeting held at Rhynebeck, Dutchess Cty., in the State of New York, Sept. 22nd, in the year of Christ 1796, of performing the duties of the Holy Ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church, I intend to hold office in said church only as long as my brethren, the Ev. Luth. Ministerium, acknowledge me to be, in conduct and doctrine, in agreement with the Word of God and the Symbolical Books of our Church. -- Furthermore that I will not interfere with the rights of any of my brethren, nor without their desire or consent accept a call from dissatisfied or seditious persons of such a congregation, nor perform any single ministerial act which rightfully belongs to such brethren. -- That I will submit to the admonition of the Honorable Ministerium and while this is not in session to that of the Senior of the same. -- All this I vow before my God, these my brethren, and the entire here assembled congregation.

Thus given Rhynebeck September 25th in the year of Christ 1796 --

Georg Strebeck.

Declaration of Mr. Wieting.

In the name of the Supreme Shepherd Jesus Amen! By this present declaration I, Johann Christoph Wieting, Licensed Candidate of the Holy

Dutchess Cty., in the State of New York, Sept. 22nd, in the year of Christ 1796, of performing the duties of the Holy Ministry in the Ev. Luth. Church, I intend to hold office in said church only as long as my brethren, the Ev. Luth. Ministerium, acknowledge me to be, in conduct and doctrine, in agreement with the Word of God and the Symbolical Books of our Church. -- Furthermore that I will not interfere with the rights

of any of my brethren, nor without their desire or consent accept a call from dissatisfied or seditious persons of such a congregation, nor perform any single ministerial act which rightfully belongs to such brethren.-- That I will submit to the admonition of the Honorable Ministerium and while this is not in session to that of the Senior of the same. -- All this I vow before my God, these brethren, and the entire here assembled congregation.

Thus given Rhynebeck September 25th in the year of Christ 1796 --

Johann Christoph Wieting.

No. 6 1797 Rhynebeck, Sept. 1st 1797.

Since for certain reasons the Ministerial Meeting could not be held in Schoharie; Rhynebeck was again chosen by the Senior as the place of the meeting. September first Dr. Kunze preached there on John 2. v. 17. and at the close of the service the meeting was opened with prayer by the Senior, Dr. Kunze.

The following were present

The Messrs. J. C. Kunze D. D. Senior of the Ministerium.

J. F. Ernst Preacher at Claverack.

A. T. Braun -- Albany

G. H. Pfeiffer --

F. H. Quitman A.M. -- Schoharie.

G. J. Wichtermann -- Feilstown.

Deputies (J. Hauptman of New York.

(C. Nier Rhynebeck.

(I. VanHaussen Luneburgh.

(G. Bats Claverack.

The election of a secretary was next in order and F. H. Quitman was elected by a majority of votes.

After the reading of two letters from Newyork it was decided to take up the matter of Mr. Strebeck in the morning.

Resolved that Marriage Ceremonies are to be counted among the regular Ministerial Acts to which only a regularly ordained minister is entitled.

Resolved that the meeting is to be adjourned for to-day and be resumed at nine o'clock in the morning.

On September second the meeting was opened with prayer in the forenoon. Several complaints were registered in writing against Mr. Ernst by the congregation of Churchtown and Claverack. The whole forenoon was taken up with the investigation of these complaints. These investigations were continued in the afternoon, and it was finally decided

1. That a committee be sent to these two congregations in order to bring about a reconciliation, if possible; or to gather all the complaints against Mr. Ernst, and the proofs thereof, and present them to the next meeting.

2. Resolved that the preachers Mr. Braun and Quitman, with two elders of their congregations constitute this committee.

3. That the two congregations Claverack and Luneburg should pay Mr. Ernst the amounts of salary due him, before the above mentioned committee will go to the aforesaid places for an investigation.

4. That if the committee should not be able to bring about a reconciliation and find Mr. Ernst to be innocent, the Honorable Ministerium will advise Mr. Ernst to accept another call at the first opportunity.

After this the matter of Mr. Strebeck was taken up and in consideration of the first letter, signed by Messrs. Heiszer, v. Buskerk, and Hartman it was

1. Resolved that it is never the custom of the Evangelical Ministerium to sanction any kind of separation, that if the persons who

have signed the letter desire their children to remain within the Lutheran churchfellowship in Newyork, they should be earnestly

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admonished to send them to the German school, and in case there should be no probability to make any progress in this matter they (the Ministerium) herewith declare that those persons who are not yet communicants in a Lutheran church shall not be regarded as apostates, if they join the Anglican Episcopal Church which has been founded in an orderly manner and has not originated through an illegal separation from any previous church affiliation.

2. Resolved that since a close connection exists between the Episcopal and Lutheran church, and on account of the similarity of doctrine and close relationship of church discipline, the Consistory will never acknowledge a newly established Lutheran church that uses only the English language in a place where the members may participate in the Episcopal service.

After this a letter was read from Mr. Strebeck, who had been ordained by the Evang. Luth. Ministerium in this very place on September 25th 1796, wherein he reports that he has accepted a call to serve an English Lutheran church which was established in New york, wherefore it was

1. Resolved: that Mr. Strebeck by acting as he did had transgressed the conditions of his ordination which had been read to him and had been signed by him at the time of his ordination.

2. that it is an outrageous statement in which Mr. Strebeck expresses

his opinion (? --"Andung" in the original), that at the time of his ordination conditions were placed before him in a surreptitious manner; for it is, and was at all times, a general procedure with reference to candidates who present themselves for ordination.

3. that Mr. Strebeck's insinuation of deception which was supposed to have been practiced in placing these conditions before him; that he denies the right which the Ministerium has to place such conditions before him; that he, furthermore, disgraces the memory of the late Mr. Mühlenberg, as if he had sent his son to a congregation which existed in definite separation from another, although the congregation which Mr. Mühlenberg served had long before been recognized as a rightful congregation by both the Ministerium of Pennsylvania and that of New York, (all this) is outrageous and highly detrimental to the Consistory.

4. that since Mr. Strebeck, just as he admits in his letter, deviated in certain cases from his declaration which he signed (: that he signed this against his will cannot be assumed without accusing him of childhood (i.e. childishness) :) and interfered with the ministerial duties of the preacher at New York, although the latter had a legal call from this congregation, it is hereby declared that Mr. Georg Strebeck, inasmuch as he acted in this manner, has lost all his privileges of ordination and is henceforth no longer recognized by this Consistory as a Lutheran preacher.

5. Resolved that all these decisions be declared null and void at the next meeting of the Consistory, if it is evident that Mr. Strebeck, from this time on, will have abstained from all ministerial rights belonging to the above mentioned preacher, except in cases in which he is asked by the

local preacher to perform such acts.

Resolved that in the constitution the expression Ministerium be changed to Consistory.

Resolved that the next meeting of the Consistory be held in Newyork on the third Sunday after Pentecost.

That all the above reported proceedings were carried on at Rhynebeck by the United Ev. Luth. Consistory of the State of Newyork from Sept. 1st to 3rd is certified by

D. Johann C. Kunze Senior of the Consistory.

Friederich H. Quitman p.t. Secretary.

Johann F. Ernst.

Anthon T. Braun.

Georg J. Wichtermann.

Deputies

(Jacob Hauptman - Newyork.

(John VanHoesen - Luneburg.

(Charles Nier - Rhynebeck.

(Georg Batz - Claverak.

No. 7 Albany, June 25, 1798

Since weighty reasons prompted the Senior to substitute, with the consent of the members of the Consistory, Albania as the place of this year's meeting, the undersigned having convened, the Consistory was opened on June 25 with prayer by the Senior.

Public services had been held the Sunday preceding. In the morning Dr. Kunze preached on Rom. 14, v. 15. in the afternoon Mr. Ernst on John 14, v. 21. and in the evening Mr. M. (? Magister) Quitman on Is. 60, v. 1 ff.

The Messrs. Joh. C. Kunze Senior of the Consistory
F. H. Quitman Secretary Preacher at Rhynebeck etc.
J. F. Ernst --Claverack & Luneburg.
A. T. Braun --Albany etc.
G. J. Wichtermann -- Feilstown.
J. C. Wieting -- Gaszeberg.

Deputies
(I. Hauptman. Newyork
(Z. Reichard. Rhynebeck.
(C. Loescher. Ostcamp.
(G. Brust. Feilstown.
(G. Ruby. Albany
(F. Bonestiel. Feilstown.

The election of a secretary was next in order and F. H. Quitman, P. in Rhynebeck, was unanimously elected to this office.

A letter was read from the congregation in Churchtown in which Trustees and Elders certify that Mr. Ernst used every endeavor to

adjust the difficulties in the congregation, but in vain; that Mr. Ernst last year faithfully attended to the duties of his office and conducted himself according to the teachings (of our Church).

1. Resolved that the above mentioned letter be quoted verbatin in the minutes.

At the complaint of Mr. Ernst that the congregation of St. Thomas Church in Churchtown and Zions Church in Luneburg, whose preacher he still is at present, by withholding his salary or a part of same as well as by hindering him in the performances of his duties, had neither (not) acted according to certain resolutions of the Consistory, wherein these were plainly set forth and concerning which one had agreed on 2. 76cv (?) 1797 in Rhynebeck with all justice and fairness in church government. (This sentence is badly muddled in the original.)

2. Resolved that said Pastor (German has "Pfarrer" this time) Ernst. be entirely free and be empowered by the Consistory to accept another call from any congregation which may have tendered such or might do so in the future; and that said congregations of Churchtown and Luneburg pay said Mr. Ernst his salary in proportion to his call up to the time of his departure to such a new congregation.

3. Resolved that these resolutions be communicated to these congregations.

A letter was read from Mr. Groz who begs to be excused because of illness and weakness.

Because of a misunderstanding arisen between M. (Magister) Quitman and P. (Preacher) Wichtermann on account of an anonymous letter sent to

the congregations in Taarbush and addressed to the two other congregations Rhynebeck and Camp (East or West Camp ?), and since Mr. Wichtermann asserts not to be the author of it.

Resolved that a letter be sent to Mr. Wichtermann's congregation with the following content:

1. That Mr. Wichtermann had declared not to be the author of said slanderous letter.

2. That Mr. Quitman had,not directly accused him of this but had only said that all who had seen the writing had taken it for his hand.

3. That the misunderstanding between the two men had been completely removed.

4. That the Consistory would seriously consider a better support (charge ?) for Mr. Wichtermann.

5. But that this could not be done as long as the congregation continues to forbid Mr. Wichtermann to perform his ministerial duties and that the Consistory is of the opinion that such restriction should be lifted immediately.

4. A letter was read by the Senior which he had received from Mr. Friederich Maier in which Mr. Maier asks to be taken up as a member of the Consistory and be provided for in this state.

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Resolved that the Consistory has sufficient grounds to advise him through the Senior that they do not (?) acknowledge him as a member of the Consistory, and (but ?) that they are ready to receive him as such, in case he should come to this state.

5. In answer to an inquiry of Messrs. Braun and Wieting as to what would be the proper attitude on their part toward a certain Mr. Carl Salomon Friderici who without ordination and recognition by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania is serving several congregations in that state in a ministerial capicity, in case he should pay a visit to or in their respective congregations.

Resolved that we cannot recognize said Mr. Friederici as an ordained preacher, and that, therefore, no brother is permitted to let him enter his pulpit, until he has appeared before this Consistory and identified himself as an ordained preacher.

At six o'clock in the evening the Rev. Mr. Wieting preached on John 3, v. 17. 18.

On the 16th (26th) the meeting was opened with prayer.

1. Resolved that this Consistory consider the establishment of a small treasury as indispensible.

2. Resolved that if the various church councils agree to it each of the united congregations should make an annual contribution to such a fund of not less than one dollar.

3. That such contributions be paid by the preacher or delegate at every convention.

4. That a treasurer be elected for this purpose who must be a pastor, for the reason that these always attend (the meeting).

5. That whatever be necessary, in our common affairs (official business), in the way of paper, ink, books, as well as postage, be counted among the chief expenses.

6. Resolved that these resolutions go into effect at the next meeting of the Consistory, providing that no special objections are made against it by any member of the meeting.

Hereupon P. (Preacher) Braun was unanimously elected as Treasurer.

Tuesday evening P. (Preacher) Wichtermann preached on Rom. 8, v. 21-32.

7. Resolved that no ministerial member of this Consistory may bring another into court, but that all differences that might arise between the brethren must be settled by this Consistory alone.

Resolved that this Consistory accept no complaints from any individual member of a congregation against preachers, inasmuch as such charges, whether they concern teaching or conduct, are first to be brought before the church councils; unless it were to be definitely proven that such church councils do not listen to the plaintiffs in important matters and refuse to make an investigation, in which cases the Consistory will, at first by letter, refer the matter to the respective church councils for investigation.

8. Resolved that in case a trained clergyman show the Senior sufficient proofs of having been examined and found competent by a Consistory or Ministerium and the Senior also find him to be endowed with ministerial abilities, the Senior should in specially urgent circumstances have the right to ordain him, in conjunction with the Secretary and one of the older preachers, without waiting for the meeting of the Consistory.

Resolved that the Secretary in the name of the Consistory recommend to those congregations who so far have not followed this custom that they

pay the traveling expenses for their preacher and deputy who attend the Consistorial Meeting.

Resolved that the future meeting of the Consistory be held on the 3rd Sunday in Sept. of next year in Ost Camp. To all this the following bear witness

Joh. C. Kunze H.S. Doctor (Doctor of Holy Scriptures)
Prof. of Orient Languages and Senior of the
Consistory

M. (Mister ?) F. H. Quitman Secretary p.t. Preacher
in Rhynebeck etc.

J. F. Ernst -- Churchtown & Luneburg.

A. T. Braun -- Albany etc.

G. J. Wichtermann -- Feilstown.

J. C. Wieting -- Gaszeberg.

Deputies (Christopher Ruby -- Albany
(Jacob Hauptman -- Newyork
(Zacharias Reichard -- Rhynebeck
(Conrad Loescher -- OstCamp
(Friederich Bonestiel -- Feilstown

No. 8 1799 Ostcamp Sept. 14, 1799

The members of the Consistory convened. In the forenoon of the 15th Senior J. C. Kunze, D. D. preached on John 21, v. 15 Preacher Ernst preached in the afternoon in English on Josuah 5, v. 13.

On Monday the 16th the Consistory was opened with prayer by the Senior. In attendance were

The Messrs. J. C. Kunze D.D. Prof. of Oriental Languages & Senior of the Consistory.

F. H. Quitman A.M. Secretary p.t. and Preacher in Rhynebeck etc.

P. J. Groz A.M. -- Stonearabia etc.

J. F. Ernst -- Cooperstown

A. T. Braun -- Albany etc.

Deputies (Johann Kayser -- Newyork.
(Friederich Tater -- Rhynebeck.
(Andreas Scherz -- Tarbush.
(Bernhard Schulteus -- Ostcamp.
(David Borgard -- Wirtenberg.

Election of a secretary was next in order and F. H. Quitman, Pastor at Rhynebeck received the majority of votes. The minutes of the Consistorial Meeting from the year 1797 to (and) 1798 were read, whereupon it was moved and seconded that the Senior inform the Consistory concerning the conduct of Mr. Strebeck since his suspension, in order that the Consistory be prepared (to take action?) according to the last paragraph

of the resolution of which he was informed after the Consistorial Meeting of the year 1797.

After the Senior made the report that Mr. Strebeck had continued in his separation and had accepted and kept until now a congregation with salary at a place where the Senior had a call and that he had not set foot into the house of the Senior since the time of his separation, (it was) resolved

1. That (the time limit given in) paragraph 5 of the resolutions which were conveyed to Mr. Strebeck was now expiring and that this paragraph should be in force and that by virtue thereof, due to his violation of the conditions of his ordination according to his own confession which he sent to the Consistory in writing in 1797 and due to the lack of improvement in his conduct during the two years since the time of his separation, he should now forfeit all rights to ministerial acts to which he claims to have a right on the strength of his ordination which he obtained from this Consistory in 1796.

2. That it should be announced in all congregations under our supervision that Mr. Strebeck has no connection with us and that we do not recognize as valid any of his ministerial acts to which a preacher believes to be entitled on the strength of his ordination.

3. At the special request of the Senior the following was added that this announcement be withheld until the next Consistorial Meeting in order to give Mr. Strebeck one more opportunity to see his mistake, to desist from his opposition, and to plead at the next meeting with due repentance for his reinstatement, of which, for this purpose only, the Senior is to

inform him in due time.

4. Resolved that a license be sent to Mr. I. G. Wigant together with a request to appear at the next Consistorial Meeting, that in the meantime the Ministerium of Pennsylvania be asked for their consent, and only in case of their consent should he be accepted and his license extended.

5. Resolved that the Senior write to the Ministerium of Pennsylvania to this effect.

6. Resolved that a book be purchased in order to gradually enter the protocol therein.

7. Resolved that a seal be made under the supervision of Mr. Braun at Albany for the use of the Consistory.

The contribution to the Treasury at this time was eight dollars and fifty cents.

The following are the congregations served by the brethren:

Dr. J. C. Kunze The United Churches in Newyork.

J. P. Groz two churches in Palatine, Johnstown.

Petersburg. Niemenschneiderbush.

A. T. Braun Albany, Fellers. (?) Tomhaynick, Hamilton, Hoelenberg.

F. H. Quitman Rhynebeck, Ostcamp, Wirtenberg, Tarbush. Westcamp.

J. G. Wichtermann Troytown.

J. C. Wieting Minden, Ostquake, Durlach.

Vacant are the following congregations as far as one could remember on the spur of the moment

Hebron on the Wahlkill.

Luneburg.

Churchtown.

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Stiszick (?)

Nobletown.

Phillipstown.

Nesketha.

Beverdam.

Schoharie.

Eichenberg.

Kobelskill.

New Rhynebeck.

Curaobush (?)

Alt Hbsek (?)

8. Resolved that it be left to the Senior to decide on the time and place of the next meeting of the Consistory.--

All this is certified by:

J. C. Kunze H.S.D. and Senior of the Consistory.

F. H. Quitman Secretary p.t.

P. J. Groz Pastor in Palatine.

J. F. Ernst Cooperstown

A. T. Braun Albany

(Joh. Kayser New York

(Fried. Tater Rhynebeck

Deputies(And. Scherz Tarbush

(Bernhard Schulteus (?) Ostcamp

(Dav. Borgard Wirtenberg

Reception of the Westcamp congregation into the Consistory.

After the congregation at West Camp in Ulster County of the State of New York has expressed, by the undersigned deputies, its desire to be received and considered as an affiliated congregation in the Ev. Luth. Consistory of the State of New York and said Consistory, assembled at Ostcamp Sept. 16, 1799, has unanimously agreed to and confirmed this reception, the solemn promise is hereby made by said congregation that they will submit at all times to the decisions of said Consistory of which they are themselves members and in which their deputies have seat and vote, to receive no preacher into their pulpit who is not a member of this Consistory and to recognize the Senior of said Consistory, as the supervisor of their church and school. Thus given Ostcamp Sept 16, 1799. Signed in the name of said congregation at Westcamp by their deputies as follows

Johannes Maurer

Henrich Mus Jor (?)

Wilhelm Emrich

His

Nicholaus (X) Maurer.

Mark

A letter from the church council of the Lutheran Congregation in Churchtown of June 21st 1798 which was to be inserted here is to be found at the end of protocol No. 9. [1]

1. Protocol page 24. (Typed pp. (59)-(60).)

No. 9 (1800)

Inasmuch as the Senior and President of the Ministerium, Mr. J. Ch. Kunze Th.D. had called the Ministerial Meeting at Würtemberg, Reinbeck Township Dutches County on Trinity Sunday, the members convened there at the appointed time and on June 9th the Ministerial Meeting was opened with prayer by the Senior. The Sunday preceding he had preached in St. Paul's Church on 1 Cor: 4 v 9. to a very numerous congregation and had endeavored in a very elucidating manner to bring conviction concerning the continuation of the Religion of Jesus and of the office instituted by Him.

The following were present

Mr. J. Ch: Kunze Th.D. Senior of the Ministerium and Preacher in Newyork

-- F. H. Quitman A.M. Sect. p.t. and Preacher in Reinbeck etc.

-- A. Th. Braun Preacher in Schoharie

-- F. Ernst Preacher in Cooperstown

-- G. J. Wichtermann Preacher in Troytown

-- J. Hauptman Deputy from Newyork

-- F. Täter Deputy from Reinbeck

-- B. Schultens Deputy from Ostcamp

-- D. Treber Deputy from Würtenberg

-- W. Fiero Deputy from Westcamp

-- J. Schefer Deputy from Schoharie

-- D. G. Knauf from Albania with a written credential

The election of a secretary was first in order and F. H. Quitman

Preacher in Reinbeck received the majority of votes.

Next a letter was read from Mr. Strebek in which he expressed the desire to be reinstated in the membership of the Ministerium. Whereupon it was resolved that Mr. G. Strebeck should be solemnly reinstated and the following be submitted to him for his signature.

Since I have been, at the recommendation and presentation of my teacher and our Senior Mr. J. Ch: Kunze and after due examination, rightfully ordained and consecrated to the office of the Holy Ministry by the laying on of hands by said Senior

and his assistants during a Ministerial Convention held in Reinbeck September 22nd 1796, and since I have set my signature to the following declaration during said sacred ceremony. See declaration No. 5 in the protocol. (i.e. at the end of protocol No. 5).

And since I have assumed the office of a preacher in the Engl. language in a newly arising Engl. congregation without the consent of the Ministerium or the Senior, in the delusion that these my ministerial acts in the Engl. language would not be regarded as a breach of my solemn promise, which nevertheless was regarded in this light by the following Ministerial Meeting in consequence of which my suspension was determined upon in the meeting of the following year and inserted in the protocol.

And since (I find) after due and mature deliberation, that I should have fairly and squarely asked my teacher and Senior for advice before accepting this offer; I hereby declare that it has never been and

is not now my intention to deviate in the least from the letter and the spirit of the above mentioned declaration; and that since the Evangl. Luth. Ministerium has again received me into full membership and given me their brotherly confidence, I hereby promise most solemnly before God and our Supreme Shepherd Jesus Christ.

1). That I consider myself bound in future to fulfill and carry out every part which according to the interpretation of the Ministerium is contained in the above named declaration.

2). That I shall not, without the permission of the rightful preacher of the other Lutheran congregation in Newyork, receive any new members from said congregation who are communicants in the same, beyond those who according to my church record have before this date participated in the Holy Communion in my congregation.

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So enacted in Reinbeck in the schoolhouse of St. Paul's Church June 9th 1800.

After Mr. Strebeck had signed this, he was immediately reinstated.

Upon this Mr. H. Heiser, delegate of Mr. Strebeck's congregation appeared and asked in the name of the congregation which he represented to be received into membership in our organization. Whereupon (it was)

Resolved 1.) that the Engl. Lutheran Church in Newyork be recognized by us and received into the fellowship of united congregations on conditions which are to be submitted to the delegate for signature.

2.) That this reception is not to be regarded as a retraction of the resolution made on September 1st 1797, couched in the following words;

That in consideration of the connection that exists between the Anglican Episcopal and Lutheran Churches and the similarity of doctrine and the close resemblance of the church organization of the Ministerium (the latter) will never sanction a newly founded Lutheran congregation that uses English only in a place where members may participate in the service of the Anglican Episcopal Church.--because this Engl. (congregation) in Newyork had been established before this resolution and such establishment, therefore, cannot be considered as a confirming incident. (i.e. confirming a recall of the above named resolution.)

Resolved that the following points be submitted to Mr. Heiser for his signature. To wit.

Since I, the undersigned elder of the Engl. Lutheran Congregation in New York, am authorized by said congregation to petition the Evangl. Luth. Ministerium of this state to receive our congregation into the fellowship of Evangl. Lutheran Churches and grant the right to send delegates to the meetings who have seat and vote therein according to the accepted rules of said Ministerium and since I now have achieved the purpose of my mission, I declare and promise herewith solemnly, in my name and the name of the congregations (?Plural?) I represent.

1.) That we purpose to keep on our part every item of the aforesaid constitution of the Ministerium, as well as all other arrangements, regulations, decisions, and laws that the Ministerium will enact from time to time, with the condition, however, that these regulations and resolutions do not conflict with the form

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of administration and regulations already accepted in our church.

2.) That we purpose at all times to recognize the chosen Senior of the Ministerium as the supervisor of our church or churches, school or schools in case the congregation have any.

3.) That since our brethren who constituted the other Evangl. Luth. Congregation in the city of Newyork owe their continuance and growth chiefly to the emigrations from Europe and other parts of America, we intend at all times to confine our service to the Engl. language, so as not to draw over from their church affiliation those who have need of the German language.

4.) That we shall never receive a Lutheran preacher into our Engl. Luth. Church who is not a regular member of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium or who before his acceptance will have identified himself as such and have been regularly admitted.

The Senior reported that the letter which he had been asked to write concerning Wicand (?) was sent to the Pennsylvania Ministerium. It was reported that Mr. A. F. Meier was ordained and the ordination was sanctioned by the Ministerium. The declaration he signed is exactly like the others except for the additional statement that Mr. Meier should remain in the province of Canada for two years, and that if he then shows good recommendations from his congregations he shall be eligible (?) in this state.

5.) The declaration of Mr. M. (Magister - A.M.) Grotz was also shown and his ordination made known.

6.) The contribution to the Ministerial Treasury was now collected. Mr. Heiser gave 10 dollars as a gift from his congregation and promised

to pay 2 Dllrs: 50.100 annually. After payment of all debts there was a balance of 13 Dllrs: and 24.100 in the treasury.

7. Resolved that in future no candidates shall be ordained who have not had a thorough course of studies.

8. Resolved that the Senior and Secretary be requested to formulate rules according to which such candidates are to be examined.

Tuesday, June 10th, Mr. Wichtermann preached, (preached. After) after the session had been opened with prayer; (prayer, a letter)

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a letter was read from P. (Preacher) Ernst to the inhabitants of Otsego County in which they were invited to appear in the Synodical Meeting in order to witness the decision of the Ministerium concerning the misunderstanding that had arisen on both sides. Whereupon (it was)

2.) Resolved. 1.). that the Ministerial Meeting deem it right and fair that they give their pastor ("Seelsorger" in German--used here for the first and only time) called by them the support which had been promised him in writing.

2.). That said inhabitants be urgently admonished by this Meeting to come to an understanding with P. (Preacher) Ernst in the fairest way.

3). That in case they can prove that Mr. Ernst did not want to serve them according to his call, or had defiled his pastorate by unworthy conduct, they be requested to report such immediately to the Senior, to whom in conjunction with two other preachers is given entire jurisdiction in the matter, and to furnish Mr. Ernst with a copy of their complaints.

4.). That 2 copies of these resolutions be given to Mr. Ernst, one of which is to be handed to the persons interested in this matter; the other may be used by Mr. Ernst at his own discretion.

Mr. D. Knauf of Albania appeared and brought some charges against their former teacher, Mr. A. Th. Braun, all of which were considered and deliberated one by one. The whole matter may be summarized in the following manner.

1.) That Mr. Braun had been the cause of injury and annoyance to the church by accusing the church officers, as though these had prohibited his services and for the future had asked rent for the house in which he lived, after he had expressed the desire to resign from his pastorate. The claim was made that Mr. Braun himself had been the person who very soon had ceased from his duties and did not wish to continue any longer. Mr. Braun's defense was to the effect that from various circumstances a displeasure on the part of the church officers became noticeable which compelled him to discontinue his work rather abruptly; that before this he had purposely concealed his intention to

Protocol page 23

leave, because the new call which he now followed had been doubtful, for which reason he had also withheld for some time a letter that he had received from Newyork, until the matter was cleared up:- The Ministerium declares, that the church officers of Albania had not thereby forfeited the confidence of the Ministerium and the Senior, because it is apparent from the whole matter, that misunderstandings, fear, and suspicion had prevailed.

2.) That Mr. Braun had embezzled the contribution of a small congregation called the "Bucht" (Bay), affiliated with Albania, which contribution they were supposed to pay annually to the trustees at Albania toward the salary of the preacher, in-as-much as he had received this contribution without giving an account thereof to the trustees at Albania at the time he received his salary. Mr. D. Knauf confirmed his accusation with a receipt (held by) the man in the "Bucht" who had handed the contribution to him (Mr. Braun?), from the receipt, however, which was also submitted, it became evident that Mr. Braun had received this sum for individual services, which he had rendered to the people in the "Bucht", after his duties in Albania had ceased: The Ministerium absolves Mr. Braun from the intention of embezzlement, but is of the opinion that the people of the "Bucht", if otherwise they have received the services of Mr. Braun up to the time of his resignation from office, still owe their proportionate contribution to the church treasury at Albania.

Resolved that Mr. D. Knauf be given a copy of these resolutions.

Resolved that our appreciation be expressed to Mr. Braun for the painstaking entry of the protocol into the new book intended for this purpose.

Resolved that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Jos. Marquart for the kind hospitality shown the members of the Ministerium.

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Resolved that the next meeting of the Ministerium be held in Newyork on Trinity Sunday and following days.

In the Schoolhouse of
St. Paul's Church at
Reinbeck
June 10th 1800

Friedrich H. Quitman
Pastor in Reinbeck and
Secretary p.t.

Churchtown, June 21, 1798

Honorable and Very High Reverend Gentlemen:-

With the utmost pleasure we have read the announcement and invitation to the forthcoming meeting of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of this State which was sent us by the Right Reverend Mr. Quitman, Secretary p.t. of the Consistory, in which we are requested to send delegates from our congregation, in case we had any cause to present. The condition in our congregation and the relationship in which the greatest part thereof stand with our teacher, the Rev. Mr. Ernst, is known to the Honorable Consistory from the session held in Rhynebeck last year, where the same had received a long list of complaints from dissatisfied persons, the unreasonableness of which, however, had been well established, no further (closer) investigation, moreover, has since been desired by the opponents.

We should very much like to send several delegates, in order to give the Honorable Consistory proper testimony in certain investigations so that the truth might be confirmed and the welfare of the whole, especially of our congregation, be enhanced. But the busy season in which we find ourselves at present prevents us and on the other hand we have no special proposals beyond these we have expressed in the meeting at Rhynebeck. We nevertheless wish from the bottom of our heart that God who seeth the heart lead and guide all plans and deliberations of the assembled reverend teachers that they purpose nothing else but the common welfare of the Church of Jesus and that all discord, persecution, and selfishness be banished from their midst, but rather love and concord

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1. Appendage to 1799 Minutes. See last item of Minutes for that year, protocol p. 17 (typed p. (49)).

prevail among them for the furthering of the Kingdom of Jesus.

As far as our beloved teacher and pastor is concerned we cannot do otherwise than truthfully testify that also this year he conscientously administered the office entrusted to him, that his doctrine and the instruction he has imparted to us is in conformity with the teaching of Jesus and his Apostles; that his conduct among us, as far as we can and must judge from external appearances is in keeping with his teaching and entirely in accord with that of a servant of Christ.

Yet we must, to our greatest sorrow, deplore that all his endeavors to bring about Christian harmony in the congregation, to lead the malcontents back to church with kindly advice, and to check all indifferences to righteousness and all contempt of an outward worship of God have until now been almost entirely without avail. We hope and wish that God in his grace may soon bring to naught this spreading corruption and grant the Honorable Consistory means to help us who remain in profound respect

Your most humble

Trustees, Elders, and Deacons of the Congregation at Churchtown

	(William Mylis		(Jacob Mylis		(Antoni Schmidt
Trustees	(R. Miller	Elders	(Georg Batz	Deacons	(Petrus Mylis
	(Friederich Flied				(Karl Koenig

No. 10

New York, June 22nd 1801 the members of the Consistory convened in the home of the Senior, Dr. Joh: Ch: Kunze. The following were present

Mr. Joh: Ch: Kunze L: L Th:D: Senior and President of the Consistory pp (*)

-- Friederich H: Quitman. A:M: Pastor in Rhinebeck pp (etc.) and Secretary p:t:

-- George Striebeck Engl. Preacher in Newyork

-- Joh: Friederich Ernst --

-- Ant: Th: Braun Preacher in Troy-Town.

-- Kohan Keyser Deputy from New York

-- Lewis Hartman -- from the Engl. Church in New York

-- Heinrich Schop (?) -- Rhinebeck

-- Conrad Loscher -- from Germantown

-- John Ring (King ?) -- Wirtemberg

-- Philip Sternberger -- Schoherrie

(*Lat.-praemisis praemittendis = Other titles omitted)

A Secretary was elected and Mr. M. Quitman received the majority of votes. Next the contribution for the ministerial treasury was collected. The total amounted to 13 Dllrs 50 cents.

It was reported by the Senior and the Secretary that Mr. M. (Magister) Grosz and P. (Pastor ?) Wieting had excused themselves in writing. The excuse of Mr. Wieting was accepted; but it was decided that the Senior reprimand Mr. M: Grosz and Mr. Wichterman for their negligence.

1) Resolved that in case Mr. P: (Pastor ?) Meyer in Canada should ask for permission to accept a call in this state, the Senior might grant such permission.

2) It was announced that Mr. Weicnd (?) had been ordained and the Consistory approved the ordination.

Resolved that the meeting be adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock

On Tuesday, the 23rd, the Ministerium was opened with prayer at 11 o'clock in the morning.

A letter was read from the inhabitants of the Hartwich-Patent, which was meant to convey the reasons demanded for the dissatisfaction of these inhabitants with Mr. Ernst. Whereupon it was resolved that the inhabitants be informed that the complaints were couched in too general terms, that the Ministerium desires to have a more detailed explanation and not determine anything to the detriment of Mr. Ernst, so long as the general accusations are not proven by facts and because Mr. Ernst has shown a favorable recommendation from 18 respectable citizens of Cooperstown.

Resolved that, without urgent necessity, there shall be no deviation from the following rule in the examination of candidates.

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Candidates, who wish to become members in our Min. either come from Europe or have studied here. The former must bring a good report from university where they have studied, as well as from the last place where they have lived. If they have been examined in a European Consistory and have certificates of the same; it shall be left to the judgment of the

Senior whether he deems a new examination necessary; nevertheless he (they) must submit, before ordination, to an examination especially so in Church History and Pastoral Theology. Candidates who have studied in this country must, if they are able to show certificates of their application and their moral standing, register with the President for an examination. The President will first test them privately to see if they are worthy of an examination. If he finds them competent they must apply for an examination at the next meeting. The President appoints the examiner who will confer with the candidate not longer than one hour. After that every ordained minister has the right to examine for 15 minutes.

The candidates are examined:

1, In Exegesis or Bible Interpretation which includes an examination in the Original Languages. The appointed examiner will therefore give them, a day before the examination, a passage from the Bible which they are to translate into Latin and then explain in German or English. The passage is to be so chosen, that the examiner will have an opportunity to test the candidate in Archeology and Criticism.

2. Church History, especially of the Reformation period and more recent times, in connection with which it is to be especially determined whether they are acquainted with the objections of the enemies of Revelation and know how to refute them, and have a knowledge also of the teachings of the various sects in this country.

3. Dogmatics, Symbolics and

4. finally Philosophical and Christian Ethics and some of the History of Ancient Philosophy.

Resolved that the next meeting be held in Schoharrie.

Resolved that the 3rd Sunday after Trinity should be the unalterable day of the convention, unless urgent circumstances necessitate a change.

New York June 23 Friederich H. Quitman A:M.

1801 Secretary p:t

No. 11 (1802)

Looneburgh June 21, 1802. It was here that the Ministerium of the Evangl. Lutheran Church in New York State met to-day for the reason that Preacher Braun had left Schoharrie and the meeting could not be held there.

The following were present.

Mr. Joh: Ch: Kunze Th:D and Senior of the Ministerium

-- F: H: Quitman AM Preacher in Rhinebeck pp (etc.)

Sect. pt.

-- George Striebeck Preacher of the English Congregation

in Newyork

-- John Ch: Wieting Preacher in Minden

Deputies

Mr. Tobias Hoffman from New York

-- Lewis Hartman from New York

-- George Ring from Rhinebeck

-- Jacob Salbach Germantown

-- Michael Pulz Witemberg
-- George Batz Levingston
-- Matthias Haut Looneburgh

P. (Pastor ?) Friederich H. Quitman was again elected sect. by a majority of votes.

Resolved that since the Treasurer had sent no report another is to be elected in his place. The majority of votes were cast for P. (Pastor ?) Striebeck.

Resolved that the retired Treasurer be admonished to send the account of the treasury to the newly elected Treasurer.

Resolved that the treasurer be required to give an annual report and bring the treasury with him every year, and that a new treasurer be elected, should the majority so demand.

Resolved that we express our thanks to Mr. Joh Peter Ritter and Friederich Klein for their kind voluntary contributions to our treasury.

The Sr. submitted to the Ministerium the agreement between the Executors of the estate of the late Hartwich and the Trustees of the congregation at Albany and stated that after his decease the document be deposited in the archives of the Ministerium.

Mr. Uhl presented himself for examination and after the Senior and Secretary had examined him it was voted unanimously that the Secretary give him a certification thereof and that he be regarded as a Candidate for the Ministry and be advised to seek a call and submit the same at the next Consistorial Meeting.

Resolved that the next meeting be held in New York on the 1st Sunday after Trinity.

Resolved that Pastor Groz be reprimanded by letter for his negligence in attendance and a copy of the letter be sent to the church council of his congregation.

Resolved that the constitution of the Ministerium be again reviewed by D: Kunze and the P: (Pastor ?) Striebeck and be made ready, so that it might be printed immediately after the next Ministerial Meeting.

Friederich H: Quitman

Sect. p:t

(L.S.)[1] Articles of agreement made, entered into and concluded upon this twenty-seventh day of October in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and one by and between the Curators of the Hartwick Seminary of the one part and the Trustees of the Lutheran ---- Church in the City of Albany in the State of New York of the other part in the manner following viz

First. It is agreed by and between the said curators for themselves and their successors to and with the said Trustees of the said Lutheran Church in the City of Albany and their successors that all the property and estate left and devised by the last will and testament of John C Hartwick deceased for the use and purpose of erecting and establishing a Ministerial and Missionary Seminary, wherein young ministers and missionaries are to be trained up, according to the tenets and doctrine of the Lutheran Church, pursuant to his last will and testament aforesaid, and only for the Intent of executing the said pious design in manner hereinafter described, is to be deposited with the said Trustees of the Lutheran Church at Albany within two years from the date of these presents, subject to the order of said curators hereinafter named and their successors of whom the surviving executor of the said last will and testament of the said John C. Hartwick deceased is one.

IIdly. For the better government of the said Seminary it is mutually agreed between the said parties hereto for themselves and their successors, that it shall be managed, conducted and directed by two curators which offices are to be filled and administered by the surviving person name in

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1. Protocol pages 28-31 are in English.

the said last will and testament of the said John C. Hartwick for and during their natural lives being Jeremiah van Rensselaer Esq the present Lieutenant Governor of the State of New York and the Reverend John C. Kunze D.D. at present Senior of the Lutheran Clergy of the same State--The Reverend Henry Helmuth having resigned his curatorship by a writing under his hand dated at Philadelphia on the 9th June 1801, and the late honorable Frederick A. Mulenberg being deceased.

IIIdly It is also mutually agreed between the parties to these presents for themselves and their successors, that out of regard for the particular confidence which the said Testator hath placed in the two curators first mentioned and on account of the present infant state of the Seminary aforesaid the said two curators shall have the privilege of naming their successors, which nomination is to be regarded by the trustees aforesaid and to be conclusive against any other nomination which might be attempted to be made by them or their successors, if

they shall have notice of such nomination having been actually made by the said curators but in case such nomination might be neglected to be made, or of any future vacancy of one of the two curatorships in either such case, then the vacant place is to be filled up, by an appointment made by the Trustees of the Church aforesaid in conjunction with the elders and church-wardens thereof.

IVly. It is further mutually agreed between the parties to these presents for themselves and their successors that whenever all or any

part of the property belonging to the estate of said John C. Hartwick deceased shall have been deposited by the surviving executor of the said testator with the said trustees of the Church aforesaid, they the said trustees shall from time to time, as the same shall be delivered into their charge pass their receipts under their corporate seal to the said executors for all monies, bonds, notes or other property so deposited, specifying therein particularly the amount and nature of the property so delivered to them and that the treasurer of same church is to give at any time determined upon by privat agreement between them, to the curator who is not the literary director, yearly orders for delivering all the interest monies and revenues arising from the property thus appropriated for the Hartwick Seminary without the necessity of a previous resolution being passed by the board of trustees aforesaid for that purpose.

V^ly It is also mutually agreed between the parties to these presents for themselves and their successors, that one of the curators so to be nominated as herein mentioned must and always shall be a Lutheran minister and also a member of the Lutheran Synod in the State of New York, and shall be virtue of said curatorship, when sanctioned by the Synod of the Evangelical Clergy of the State of New York, for his competency to the business undertake the chief instruction of the students of divinity and be the literary director of the Seminary and its dependencies. And that the other of the curators is to be considered as filling the place or that office which by the said last will and testament of the testator aforesaid is named the Oeconomical Director.

VI[ly] It is also mutually agreed between the parties to these presents, for themselves and their successors that the curators aforesaid, as well as the trustees aforesaid and the vestry of the church are to use their endeavors to promote the institution in all possible manner and that the said trustees will by degrees make preparations for and request the aid of the liberal inhabitants of Albany and others to erect a building for the Seminary the Trustees aforesaid granting the ground for it, and increasing from time to time, the number of teachers and scholars and the students of divinity in such case in consideration of the instruction received being employed in teaching young academiks in the learned languages and other branches of literature under the direction of the director or his assistant.

VII[ly] It is also mutually agreed between the parties to their presents for themselves and their successors, that in order that the literary director may be enabled to

devote the most of his time to the instruction of the students in divinity, he shall have an assistant to aid him in instructing the seminarists, which assistant shall be supported partly from the revenue of the Seminary and partly from the salary he may receive from some congregation in which he shall engage to serve as their minister and that the present literary director is at liberty to move to the spot as soon as it is convenient for him so to do, but in the mean time he shall instruct students of divinity at his place of residence, his assistant

instructing young beginners intended for the ministry and others who will give him a reasonable compensation therefore, during the directors absence and until a permanent regulation can be made.

VIII[ly] It is further mutually agreed between the parties to the presents for themselves and their successors that in case of a disagreement at any time between the trustees aforesaid or their successors and the curators aforesaid or their successors, or between the two curators themselves, the said difference or dispute is to be laid before the Synod of the Lutheran Church in this State where the decision of the majority shall be considered as binding upon them and conclusive for their guidance and direction.

IX[ly] It is also mutually agreed between the parties to the presents and their successors, that the curators aforesaid and their successors, shall and will yearly and every year make a full and fair statement of their expenditures to the trustees aforesaid and their successors for their information which shall be recorded by them.

X[ly] It is mutually agreed between the parties to these presents for themselves and their successors, that the minister of the Lutheran Church at Albany who is regularly called and a member of the ministry of the Lutheran Church in this State of New York, and of approved manners and life of which the curators are to judge shall from the funds of this institution enjoy a yearly addition to his salary of one hundred dollars and the treasurer or clerk, as the trustees shall determine which of them, fifty dollars for his trouble in the business of the institution.

And for the true and faithful performance of every article stipulation and thing hereinbefore expressed and contained and for the honest discharge of every duty also enjoined, the said parties to these presents bind themselves

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and their successors respectively each to the other of them as also their successors each to the other of them in twenty thousand dollars of the money of account of the United States. In witness whereof the said curators have hereunto set their hands and seals, and the said trustees have caused their corporate seal to be hereunto affixed and this agreement to be signed, sealed and delivered as their corporate act and deed on the day and in the year first above written.

Sealed and delivered in the

presence of

Peter Edm. Elmendorf

John Frederick Ernst

Anthony T. Braun

Martin Hibeysen (Spelling?)
Daniel Pohlman junior
John G. Knauff
} Trustees

Jer V Rensselaer (LS)

John C. Kunze (LS)

I testify this to be a true copy of the original instrument of writing.

Rhinebeck 1 Sept 1802

Frederick H. Quitman
p.t. Sectr.

No. 12 1803

Inasmuch as the congr. in Wirtemberg in the town of Rhinebeck had petitioned the Senior through their pastor to convene the Ministerium in said place in order to dedicate their new church at this occasion; such a reasonable request could not be refused. Hence the members of the Min. were invited to assemble there. The solemn dedication of the church, called St. Paul's Church, took place on Oct. 9th or the 18th Sunday after Trinity. The ceremony was performed by the Senior, who, after he had solemnly dedicated the church to the service of God, delivered before an exceptionally large gathering a most fitting and stirring sermon on 2 Chron; 6 vs 19.20

Following the morning service the Holy Communion was administered, for which Mr. M. (Magister ? -- representing the A.M.?) and Pastor Grotz had delivered the preparatory sermon the day before on John 5 vs 36. Pastor Striebeck preached in the afternoon, taking Luke 13 vs 24 for his text.

October 10th 1803 at 9 o'clock in the forenoon the Senior opened the meeting of the Ministerium with prayer. The following men were present.

Pastors	Deputies
Johan Ch: Kunze Doctor of Sacr S (Scriptures) Pastor of the two German Churches in Newyork and Senior of the Ministerium.	Johan Schredy from New York Christoph Ruby from Albania Lewis Frölich from Rhinebeck Michael Autenheim (?) from Wirtemberg

Friederich H: Quitman A:M Pastor at Rhinebeck, Wirtemberg pp (etc.) and Secretary of the Ministerium.

Philip J. Grotz A:M: Pastor in Steinarabia pp (etc.).

Anthon Th: Braun Pastor in Troytown

Georg Striebeck Pastor of the Engl Church in Newyork and Treasurer of the Ministerium

Henrich Möller A:M: Pastor in Albany.

Henrich Minck from Levingsston (?)

Jacob VanLoonen from Looneburg

Adam Heydorn from Churchtown

A Secretary was then elected and the majority of votes were cast for P: (Pastor) Quitman.

As the election of another treasurer was not demanded, Mr. Striebeck was asked to continue in office. The contribution paid in this time was (no amount given)

Candidates G: F. Uhl and Ph: F: Meyer report that they have received a call. The former to Churchtown, the latter to Looneburg. After the Ministerium had sufficiently investigated and confirmed the same it was unanimously resolved to examine these men at once. The examination of the candidates followed and after they had given satisfactory proof of their theological training it was unanimously approved that they be ordained at 3 o'clock P.M: the same day. So the solemn ordination to the

Holy Ministry was performed with the laying on of hands by the Senior and the other attending brethren, after the Senior had reminded the candidates in an impressive and touching way of their duties.

Monday Oct. 10th at 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

Pastors G. F. Uhl and Ph. F. Mayer take their post in the convention of the Ministerium.

Mr. Ch: Ruby of Albania brought several letters, in which the various congregations in this state were asked for a contribution toward the erection of a building for an educational institution in Albania.

Resolved that the members of the Ministerium will support the purpose of the Church Council in Albania with the explicit condition that the High German language be taught in this institution.

Said Mr. Ruby presented to the Senior as Director of the Hartwich Seminary an article for his signature, which was to be added to the written agreement between the curators of the Hartwich Institute and the trustees of the congregation at Albania, and since it is expressly mentioned in said agreement that, if the curators could not agree in their opinions and decisions, the matter in which they might disagree, be submitted to the Evangl: Lutheran Ministerium of this State and decided and determined by a majority of votes, and since the Senior had scruples about signing the article in question the matter was thoroughly discussed, and then the question was put: Shall the Senior sign said article or not? Whereupon it was unanimously decided that the Senior should not sign said article.

Inasmuch as there was complaint about a lack of English Catechisms in our congregations and the former editions of the Catechismus Lutheri in the English language do not literally agree, it was resolved that a committee be elected to prepare a new edition and print of the Catechismus Lutheri in English, which should (be) generally accepted.

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Messrs. Joh: Ch: Kunze, Friederich H: Quitman and G: Striebeck were then requested to take this work upon themselves. Furthermore

Resolved that the cost of printing said catechism be paid from the ministerial treasury and said treasury also have the profits derived from the sales.

Resolved that said committee also be mindful of gathering (hymns for) a hymnbook in the English language for our congregations in this State and having same printed.

Resolved that if at all possible the young preachers be in future inducted or installed in their new congregations by a neighboring preacher.

Resolved that Mr. Joh: Ch: Kunze, Doctor of Sacred (?) (abbreviation in original is illegible) Theol: and Director of Hartwich Seminary shall also be Professor of Theology for the Evangl. Lutheran Church in this State and that this bestowal of honor and likewise the ordination of Messrs. Uhl and Meyer be announced in several newspapers.

Resolved that the meeting be adjourned until 9 o'clock in the morning.

On Thursday October 11th at 9 o'clock in the forenoon the testament of the late Hartwich was read to the meeting.

The constitution of the Ministerium was also read and then resolved that the constitution of the Ministerium be printed in the English language.

A letter was read from the Churchstown Congregation signed by their church council in which they confess the mistake they had made and beg to be taken back into membership, whereupon it is resolved that said congregation be received again.

Resolved that the Ministerial meeting should in future always be held either on the first Sunday after Trinity or on the first Sunday in September.

Resolved that the next meeting be held in the congregation of P (Pastor) Braun in Troytown.

Resolved that the Ministerium meet again on the first Sunday in September 1804

Friederich H. Quitman

Secretary p:t of the Ministerium

No. 13. 1804

September 3rd 1804 the Ministerium of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in York State assembled in Troytown. The following were present: Messrs. Joh. Chr. Kunze Th.D. and P. (Professor) Senior of the Ministerium and Pastor of the German Congregation in Newyork.

Fr. H. Quitman Secr. p.t. and Preacher.
Ant. T. Braun Pastor in Troytown
Henr. Moller Pastor in Albany
Phil. Meyer Pastor in Loonenburg
G. F. Uhl Pastor in Claverack.

Deputies (Heinr. Scherer from Newyork.
(Georg Ring -- Rheinbeck
(D. Pulz -- Würtenberg
(A. Reichenberger -- Germantown
(Ph. Feller -- Troytown
(N. van Loonen -- Loonenburg
(D. Scherz -- Claverrack
(L. Thiele -- Squampanick

Sunday forenoon the Senior preached on (text not stated)

In the afternoon Pastor Quitman preached (?)

Monday forenoon Pastor Meyer spoke in English on (?)

In the afternoon P. [a]stor Quitman spoke in Dutch on (?)

A secretary was elected; the majority of votes were cast for P. Quitman.

P. Meyer was elected treasurer. The contribution amounted to 18$ 50 cents; the total was 49$ 33 cents

A letter was read from Loonenburg, in which the congregation asked that P. Meyer be persuaded to reject the call from the Engl. Luther. Congregation in Newyork. Resolved that the petition be granted and the Secretary inform the congregation of the result.

Resolved that the conduct of Mr. Striebecks be regarded as

an illegal and unscrupulous procedure and that he should, therefore, be and remain excluded from our fellowship and be declared unfit for any membership in the future.

Since the work on the catechism decided upon in the last meeting has not been done, because of the withdrawal of Mr. Striebeck who had one of his own printed for his church, it was resolved that the work should be finished as soon as possible. After the Ministerium had once more reviewed the catechism, the matter was referred to Pts (Pastors) Quitman and Meyer for completion.

Resolved that the expenses should at first be paid out of the treasury.

Resolved that this catechism is to be used in all Evangel. Lutheran congregations where the Engl. language is needed.

Resolved that a brief foreword indicating this purpose is to be inserted after the title page, signed by the Senior and the Secretary.

Resolved that the decision concerning the connection with the

Anglican Episcopal Church be rescinded.

Resolved that the parish at Troy be advised to unite in the building of a central church.

Resolved that our churches be warned against a certain Marschal.

Resolved that a program (of catechization ?) in English be set up by our chosen Professor of Theology and that he should

have the right to draw upon the Treasurer for a reimbursement of expenses; that the brethren be advised to catechize very diligently.

Resolved that Pastor Wieting be admonished to attend the conferences more regularly.

Resolved that Pastor Grotz be reprimanded by the Senior for some expressions he used in his letter to the Ministerium.

Resolved that the next Conference be held at Rheinbeck.

Friederich H: Quitman

Secretary p:t

No. 14.

Sept. 9th 1805 the Senior opened the meeting of the Ministerium with prayer in the parsonage at Reinbeck. The Sunday preceding he had preached before a numerous gathering on "Harmony among the Teachers." Mr. Willeston preached in the afternoon of the same day in English.

The following men were present:

Preachers	Deputies
J. Ch: Kunze Th.D: Senior of the Minist: Prof: of Th: and Preach: of the German Congregation in Newyork	Leonard Peitschel of the Germ. Con. Newyork
Friederich H: Quitman of Reinbeck Secretary p:t	Henrich Heiser of the Engl. Congregation in the same place
Anth: Th Braun of Troytown.	Peter Treber of Reinbeck
Henrich Moller of Albania	Joh: Loescher of Germantown
Ph: F. Meyer of Athens	Christ. Meidlep (?) of Witemberg
Joh: Ch: Wieting of Minden	Henrich Minck of Levington
Joh: G: Wichtermans Albanierbucht	David Schertz of Claverack
Joh: G. Uhl asked to be excused because of illness	Georg Schneider of Troytown
	Mitthias v Loonen of Athens
	Ph. Feller of Greenbush

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A secretary was elected and P: (Pastor) Quitman received the majority of votes. The Treasurer, P. Meyer, submitted his report which was found

to be correct. The contributions this time amounted to 31$ and 85 100

P: Quitman informed the Ministerium that among the writings of the late Pastor Hartwich papers were found in which it is stated that several thousand acres of land had been given the Evangelical Church in this state by the King of England which are said to be located near the hamlet of Newbourgh.

Resolved that a committee be appointed to investigate this matter.

Resolved that Dr. Kunze, the Pastors Quitman and Meyer together with Messrs. D. Grimm, Metthias v Loonen and Joh: Cook constitute this committee.

Resolved that the expenses for this investigation be collected among the congregations.

As the Senior expressed his readiness to have an exact report printed of the procedure of the Executors and Curators of the Hartwich Estate and the destinies (?) of the institution. (it was)

Resolved that the cost of printing this report be covered by the treasury of the Ministerium with the condition that the money be refunded, in case the report achieves the desired purpose.

Several complaints were registered against some of the brethren on account of interferences with ministerial rights. They confessed that they had been mistaken and that in future they would not become guilty of it any more.

Resolved that P: Wichterman be reprimanded by the Senior for his uncivil and ill fitting behaviour with the addition that if such complaints should again be made against him, he is to be excluded from the Ministerium.

Resolved that Mr. Wichterman come to an agreement with P: (Pastor) Grotz.

Resolved that the meeting be adjourned until 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

At 12 o'clock Candidate Wackerhagen delivered a sermon.

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The meeting was re-opened with prayer at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Henrich Heiser, deputy of the Engl. congregation in Newyork announced to the Ministerium that said congregation had called Mr. Willeston as preacher and asked that he be received into the membership of the Ministerium. Mr. Willeston submitted his records showing that he had already been ordained as a deacon and elder in the Society of the Methodists by the Bishop of that body.

Resolved that Mr. Willeston be accepted as a member of the Ministerium after he has placed his signature under certain points submitted to him. After several explanations Mr. Willeston signed the declaration and was then welcomed as a member with the hand of brotherhood.

With reference to Mr. Wackerhagen the Senior made the following proposals.

1, That he receive permission to preach in the vacant congregations.

2, To baptize children in such congregations.

3, That recommendations (? original has: Verschreiben) be given him to the congregation at Schoherry and he be recommended to the congregation. And in case he should not receive a call to this

congregation or wish to accept the same that he

4, . have the right to offer his services to other vacant congregations.

Resolved that the Ministerium approve of these proposals.

Resolved that the Senior solemnly induct or install Mr. Willeston into his (congregation ?)

Resolved that the next Minist: Meeting be held in Germantown on the 1st Sunday in September.

Friederich H: Quitman

Secty pt

Revers signed by Mr. Willeston[1]

Having received a call to officiate as minister of the gospel in the English Lutheran Church of New York, and having hitherto officiated in the same capacity in the Methodist Church, where I was duly ordained first a deacon and afterwards an elder, I herewith declare in the presence of God and before my brethren

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the ministers of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the State of New York.

1. That having read the unaltered Augustan (Augsburg) confession and finding nothing in it, especially after an explanation of some points given to me in private conversation by the Senior of the Lutheran Church in this state, that in my opinion is contrary to the Word of God, I subscribe the said confession, with an intention to adhere to it to receive the right hand of fellowship from the Senior and the ministers of the Lutheran Church, with a view to continue in this connection, as long as these my brethren find my doctrine and life in conforming with the Word of God and the aforesaid unaltered Augustan (Augsburg) confession, and as long as I shall find employment in

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1. The Revers, continuing through Protocol page 40, is in English.

this church to preach the everlasting gospel of the saviour of the world.

2. That as I know that every society must have its rules and preserve unanimity, I will in public worship as well as in all parochial duties, conform to the practice, usages & ceremonies of the Ev. Luth. Church & likewise execute all the ordinances & resolves of the Synod of that church in this state, shall from time enact & enter, provided they have been to me explained in a language I understand. In this article and promise is included a strict conformity with the rules of that particular congregation, in which I now or in future shall officiate.

3. Situated in a particular manner in regard to the Germ. Luth. Church in the City of NYork, I understand and will adhere to that stipulation subsisting between the two congregations, that no communicants are received from each other, without mutual consent of the ministers of the two congregations.

4. That I will not interfere in any of the parochial duties, belonging to another member of this ministry, nor accept of a call provided already with a regular minister.

5. That in my official conduct I consider myself subject to the censure of the Evangl. Luth. Synod of this state of which I am a member and during its recess to the admonitions and directions of its Senior.

Done in the Synod of the Evangl. Luth. Ministry in the state of NYork and subscribed with my own hand in the presence of God and my Evangl. brethren this 9th day of Sept. in the year of our Lord 1805.

Signed by Ralph Willeston

A true copy.

Frederick H. Quitman

p.t. Sect.

No. 15

On Sept. 7th (1806), this being the 14th Sunday after Trinity, the Ministerium of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the State of Newyork, assembled in Germantown, Columbia Co.; in the forenoon Pastor Quitman preached on Joh 8, 31 in the afternoon Pastor Ph. Mayer preached in the Engl: language on 2 Tim. 2, 19.

It was in the parsonage that the Synodical Meeting was opened with prayer on the foll. day. As the Senior Dr. Kunze, on account of various circumstances which he reported to Synod in the edifying letter, had not been able to attend, Pastor Quitman was elected president pre temp. by a unanimous vote, and in his stead as former secretary Pastor Wackerhagen was nominated and elected to this office.

The following were present

Preachers	Deputies
Mr. M (Magister =A.M.?) Heinr. F. Quitman	Jonas Simon of Rheinbeck.
	Fr. Meyer - Ostcamp
Geg Jos. Wichtermann	Joh. Deter of Lewingston (?)
Friedr. Meyer	Adam Loscher - Westcamp.
Joh. G. Fr. Uhle	Jacob Waldemeier Squermpanick (?)
Phil F. Mayer	Fr. Hoffmann - Churchtown.
Aug. Wackerhagen	

A letter was read from Pastor Moeller, in which he excused himself on account of his absence from this meeting because he had just recently entered upon his new field at Newrhinebeck and Sharon.

Another letter (was) read from Mr. M. (Magister-A.M.?) Grotz, wherein he excused himself on account of old age and weakness and at the same time reported the illness of Pastor Wieting.

Pastor Ph. Mayer announced to Synod, that he had accepted a call to Philad.a, asked Synod for a testimony that he had been a constant member of the same and how he had conducted his office.

Resolved. that the Secretary give said Pastor Ph. Mayer a letter of honorable recommendation.

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P. Ph. Mayer submitted to Synod an account of the ministerial treasury of which he had been in charge as treasurer. This was audited and found to be correct. P. Wackerhagen was then elected treasurer pro temp., and the former treasurer handed him the balance in the treasury of $83-9 1/2 cents.

P. Ph. Mayer reported furthermore that 362 copies of the catechism were still on hand which he promised to deliver to the President and Treasurer.

Resolved that the President be asked to reply to the letter that the Senior had addressed to Syn., and assure him of the friendly affections of the members of the same.

At the request of the President and the delegates (or delegation? or committees?) of Rheinbeck and Würtenberg it was

Resolved, that Mr. Pfeiffer, formerly preacher at Rheinbeck, be declared unfit to officiate as minister in the Lutheran Church in this state. Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to Mr. Pfeiffer.

P. Wichtermann submitted a testimonial signed by Justin Teigert, in which he was acquitted of certain disgraceful acts, of which he had been maliciously accused which testimonial contained a complete restitution of Mr. Wichtermann's honor.

P. Fr. Meier announced that he had a letter from P. Wiegand addressed to the Senior, in which Mr. Wiegand requests to be released from certain obligations which he had taken upon himself in a (written) declaration at the time of his ordination.

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Resolved that the decision concerning his request be left to the Senior and P. Quitman who had received a personal letter from P. Wiegand about this matter.

Candidate Fr. Mayer then presented himself for examination with the petition that if he be found competent the title of a Deacon be given him with the permission to apply for a call.

Resolved that the Pres. pro.temp. examine the candidate, which was done while the meeting was adjourned for half an hour. Cand. Mayer was then examined in Exegesis, Church History, and Dogmatics and completely satisfied the meeting, upon which it was

Resolved, that Cand. Fr. Mayer receive the title of Deacon and be granted his request for permission to apply for a call.

Resolved that the next meeting be held on the 1st Sunday in Septbr 1807 in Schoharie.

Resolved, to close the session for this time, upon which P. Ph.

Mayer commended the Church and especially the assembled brethren in a touching prayer to the protection of Almighty God.

After the close of the session P. Wackerhagen preached on Thessal. 1, 2.3

Extract[1] from the minutes of the Lutheran Synod of the State of New York held on the 8th day of September 1806 in Germantown, Columbia County.

Resolved, that the Reverend Philip F. Mayer, who is about to leave this state & to remove to the city of Philadelphia be presented with the sincere thanks of the members of this assembly for the assiduity & faithfulness, wherewith he has discharged all the duties as treasurer of this body, of which he continues to be a member. They cannot refuse him the honorable testimony, that by his talents as a religious teacher, by his blameless conduct & affable manners, he has won the hearts of all, who know him. They request him to remember them in his prayers & hopes, that the Lord may further give him grace & power to promote the Kingdom of truth, & the true happiness of those Christians, who are about to be intrusted to his care.

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1. The Extract, continuing through Protocol page 44 as above, is in English.